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Group Art Unit: 3738

OCT 3 0x2002 Inventor: Blanco, J.

Atty. Ref.: Kerr-5

TECHNOLOGY CENTER 3700 IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Andrew Kerr

Appl. No. : 09/900,241

Filed : July 6, 2001

For : AXIALLY-CONNECTED STENT/GRAFT ASSEMBLY

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231**AMENDMENT**

Sir:

This amendment is submitted in response to the Official Action dated August 28, 2002. Please amend the application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Cancel claim 1. Amend claims 2-4 and add claims 25-27 to read as follows:

--2. (amended) The endovascular stent/graft assembly of claim [1] 25, wherein the [substantially end-to-end disposition] first end of the tubular graft [and the fixation device comprises a sufficient overlap between the ends of the tubular graft and, the fixation device] means is sufficiently overlapped with the second end of the stent means to achieve secure affixation between the [fixation device] stent means and the tubular graft means.--

--3. (amended) The endovascular stent/graft assembly of claim [1] 25, wherein the first end section of the tubular graft means and the second end of the [fixation device] stent means are affixed by bonding.--